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LETTER DATED 15 JULY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the violations of the cease-fire provisions and of the terms governing the area of separation between Iraq and Iran that were committed by the Iranian side between 26 April and 30 June 1994.

26-29 April 1994

In the Shatt al-Arab, close to the mouth of the Karun River, an Iranian patrol boat with 10 armed persons on board tried to prevent the Iraqi research vessel Ulum from putting to sea.

The Iranian side proceeded to build a border complex in the Iranian Khusrawi area at coordinates 435050 (1:100,000 map of Khanaqin), inside the area of separation.

23-26 May 1994

An Iranian patrol boat intercepted the Russian ship Khimik Zelinsky and the tugboat Birkun, flying the Ukrainian flag and owned by the Black Sea Company, which was towing the ship. They were detained at 0700 hours on 23 May 1994 near buoy 12 while leaving the Shatt al-Arab and were only permitted to leave at 1200 hours on 26 May.

2 June 1994

At 1030 hours, an Iranian patrol boat with three military personnel on board, one of them carrying field glasses, was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of the sea.

At 1330 hours, the Iranian side, using a hoist, erected six columns near the first Iranian control post. The corrugated iron sheets for the shed to be built were seen at the border complex in the Iranian Khusrawi area at coordinates 435050 (1:100,000 map of Khanaqin), inside the area of separation.

3 June 1994

At 1000 hours, an Iranian patrol boat with three military personnel on board was seen coming from Muhammarah harbour in the direction of Abadan harbour.

4 June 1994

At 0600 hours, an Iranian patrol boat with three military personnel on board was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of the sea. At 0900 hours, it returned to its point of departure.

4 June 1994

The Iranian side established a new monitoring post at coordinates 311331 (1:100,000 map of Saybah), inside the area of separation.

9 June 1994

An Iranian patrol boat with three military personnel on board was seen coming from Muhammarah harbour in the direction of Abadan harbour. At 1215 hours, it returned to its point of departure.

9 June 1994

At 1830 hours, a khaki-coloured helicopter was seen flying over the Iranian Kani Sakht post at coordinates 999818 (1:100,000 map of Zurbatiyah), inside the area of separation. It then flew towards the Darraji post. At 1840 hours, it landed in the city of Mehran.

10 June 1994

At 1030 hours, an Iranian patrol boat with four military personnel on board was seen coming from Abadan harbour in the direction of Muhammarah harbour.

16 June 1994

At 1000 hours, two Iranian fighter aircraft flying at an altitude of 50 metres penetrated Iraqi airspace to a distance of 3-4 kilometres, 50 kilometres to the north-east of the Ali al-Sharqi area in Maysan Governorate.

19 June 1994

At 0930 hours, three khaki-coloured Iranian helicopters were seen flying from north to south parallel to the boundary line 2 kilometres inside Iranian territory. When they arrived opposite Mimak mountain at coordinates 008621 (1:100,000 map of Mandali), inside the area of separation, they returned to the Iranian rear.

20 June 1994

At 1000 hours, a khaki-coloured helicopter was seen coming from the Iranian rear towards the Iranian mound at coordinates 282487 (1:100,000 map of Sayf Sa'd), inside the area of separation. After a 5-minute flight, it returned to the Iranian rear.

24 June 1994

At 0200 hours, the Iranian side sent a group of some 30 of its personnel in three pick-up trucks to intercept the Iraqi forces at coordinates 003228 (1:100,000 map of Shaykh Sa'd) in the Shihabi area inside the area of separation, using launchers, 60-millimetre mortars and light-medium weapons. The clash lasted for 30 minutes and resulted in a number of persons being wounded and some military equipment and vehicles being destroyed.

25 June 1994

At 1300 hours, two Iranian officers, a major (the commander of the Khusrawi post) and a lieutenant, accompanied by three civilians came to the Iraqi wing of the Mundhiriyah border complex at coordinates 004104 (1:100,000 map of Khanaqin), informed the guards there that no Iraqis or Iraqi vehicles were to cross to the Iranian side and demanded the removal of the Iraqi flag and the portrait of the President of Iraq at the boundary line at coordinates 442057 (1:100,000 map of Khanaqin) because they were, they claimed, inside Iranian territory. When the guards on the Iraqi side stated that, in accordance with the principle of reciprocity, Iranian persons and vehicles would be prevented from crossing, the Iranian officer replied that any Iraqi soldier preventing them would be killed by him and that he was speaking on behalf of his country. At 1900 hours, a number of Iraqi officers met with Iranian officers, one of them of senior rank, in the said Iraqi wing, when the Iranian officers repeated the same provocative demands and made unwarranted threats.

26 June 1994

At 1000 hours, four Iranian soldiers were seen near the Iranian Zarkush post building a sandbagged firing position at coordinates 082669 (1:100,000 map of Zurbatiyah), inside the area of separation. A single-barrel machine-gun and an Iranian flag were installed there, and at 1630 hours work was suspended.

29 June 1994

At 0930 hours, the Iranian side was seen building a new position manned by five to seven persons on hill 296 at coordinates 004701 (1:100,000 map of Kani Bazz), inside the area of separation.

30 June 1994

Recently, Iranian patrol boats have repeatedly been observed approaching to within 5 metres of the Iraqi shore of the Shatt al-Arab. Some of them have been intercepting the boats of Iraqi fishermen, questioning them, driving them away and informing them that they are not to come there again.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative